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10/549,646

09/20/2005

Teunis Adrianus Kassenaar

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS

P.O. BOX 3001

BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

STULTZ, JESSICA T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2873

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/24/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/549,646

Applicant(s)

KASSENAAR, TEUNIS ADRIANUS

Examiner

Jessica T. Stultz

Art Unit

2873

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 September 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>0507</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Randmae US 5,032,919, herein referred to as Randmae '919.

Regarding claim 1, Randmae '919 discloses an imaging module (Abstract), comprising: a lens holder (Column 2, lines 41-52, wherein the lens holder is "16", Figure 5) holding a lens (Figure 5, wherein the lens holder "16" holds a lens, not labeled); a foot (Column 2, lines 53-59, wherein the foot is carrier "22", Figure 5) holding an image sensor chip ("20", Figure 5); and detachable locking means (Column 3, line 3-Column 4, line 20, wherein the locking means comprise cam followers "42" of carrier "22" and openings "60" of lens holder "16", Figure 5) for fixing a mutual position of the lens holder ("16") and the foot ("22") with respect to each other in at least one direction (Column 3, line 3-Column 4, line 20, wherein the cam followers "42" and openings "60" fix the position of the carrier "22" with respect to the lens holder "16", Figure 5).

Regarding claim 2, Randmae '919 further discloses the locking means ("42" and "60") are designed such as to bring about a snap connection between the lens holder ("16") and the foot ("22") on a movement of the lens holder and the foot with respect to each other in the at least one direction (Column 3, line 3-Column 4, line 20, wherein the cam followers "42" fit

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within T openings "60" in a snap connection and fix the position of the carrier "22" with respect to the lens holder "16", Figure 5).

Regarding claim 3, Randmae '919 further discloses that the locking means comprise at least one rib (Figure 5, wherein the ribs are cam followers "42" on carrier "22"), provided on one of the foot and the lens holder, as well as at least one slot (Figure 5, wherein the slots are openings "60" of lens holder "16") for receiving and retaining the rib ("42"), provided in another of the foot and the lens holder.

Regarding claim 4, Randmae '919 further discloses comprising coupling means (Column 3, line 3-Column 4, line 20, wherein the coupling means comprise slots "46" of the focusing ring portion of the lens holder which couple with cam followers "42", Figure 5) for coupling the lens holder and the foot, wherein the coupling means are designed such as to bring about a movement of the lens holder with respect to the foot in an axial direction on rotation of the lens holder and the foot with respect to each other (Column 3, line 3-Column 4, line 20, wherein the coupling means allows movement of the lens holder "16" with respect to foot "22" in an axial direction, Figure 5).

Regarding claim 5, Randmae '919 further discloses that the locking means are designed such as to prohibit rotation of the lens holder and foot with respect to each other (Column 3, line 3-Column 4, line 20, wherein the cam followers "42" and slots "60" prohibit rotation of lens holder and foot with respect to each other, Figure 5).

Regarding claim 6, Randmae '919 further discloses that the locking means are designed such as to allow movement of the lens holder and foot with respect to each other in an axial direction (Column 3, line 3-Column 4, line 20, wherein the cam followers "42" and slots "60"

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allow movement of lens holder and foot with respect to each other in an axial direction, Figure 5).

Regarding claim 7, Randmae '919 further discloses that the coupling means comprises a flange (Figure 5, wherein the flanges are the ridges of ribs "42") on the foot ("22") as well as a flange on the lens holder (Column 3, line 3-Column 4, line 20, wherein the flange on the lens holder comprises ramps "44" of the focusing ring portion of the lens holder, Figure 5), wherein both flanges comprise a contact surface (not labeled) and wherein the contact surfaces are designed to abut against each other (Figure 5).

Regarding claim 8, Randmae '919 further discloses that the contact surface of at least one of the flanges is inclined with respect to a plane extending perpendicular to an axial direction (Figure 5, wherein the ramps "44" are inclined as claimed).

Regarding claim 9, Randmae '919 further discloses an imaging module comprises a pressing means (Column 3, line 3-Column 4, line 20, wherein the pressing means is spring "50", Figure 5) for pressing the lens holder and the foot in an outward axial direction with respect to each other, the pressing means preferably comprising a helical spring ("50").

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Randmae '919, as applied to independent claim 1 above.

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Regarding claim 10, Randmae '919 discloses an imaging module as shown above, but does not specifically disclose that the module is used in a cellular phone. However, it is well known in the art of cameras for cameras (imaging modules) to be used in cellular phones for the purpose of providing a user with a compact, portable camera that can be easily stored and transported. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the imaging module of Randmae '919 to be used in a cellular phone since it is well known in the art of cameras for cameras (imaging modules) to be used in cellular phones for the purpose of providing a user with a compact, portable camera that can be easily stored and transported.

Conclusion

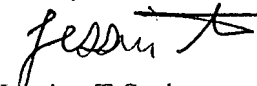
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Emura et al US 5,177,638 and Yoshibe et al US 5,523,892 are cited since they disclose imaging modules comprising imaging sensing means and lens holders with locking means to fix their positions with respect to each other.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jessica T. Stultz whose telephone number is (571) 272-2339. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Mack can be reached on 571-272-2333. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Jessica T Stultz
Examiner
Art Unit 2873
September 15, 2007